

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 /029 R

DRAFTED BY OPIC/F: JDBANKS  
APPROVED BY EB/IFD/ OIA;RDKAUZLARICH  
EB/IFD/OIA:DHSTEBBING  
AF/W:GDIES (INFO)

-----051201Z 011855 /50

R 042219Z MAY 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

UNCLAS STATE 101801

FROM OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT:MINI-REFINERY PROJECT

REF: STATE 301989

1. FYI: FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON  
SUBJECT PROJECT.

2. IN MID-MARCH OPIC FINANCE OFFICERS BONNY HENDERSON AND  
JAMES BANKS MET IN LONDON WITH SHELL AND CONOCO REPS TO  
FURTHER DISCUSS PROJECT DETAILS AND NEGOTIATE TERMS OF OPIC  
LOAN. CHEVRON NOT REPRESENTED AT MEETING BUT HAD INDICATED  
IN ADVANCE ITS APPROVAL FOR OPIC PARTICIPATION. PROJECT  
COSTS NOW PUT AT 10 MILLION DOLLARS; MAXIMUM OPIC LOAN  
WOULD BE 4.5 MILLION DOLLARS, AT 10-1/2 PERCENT INTEREST,  
MATURING IN 8 YEARS INCLUDING 3 YEARS GRACE PERIOD ON PRIN-  
CIPLE REPAYMENTS.

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3. OPIC HAD HOPED TO DEVELOP SUFFICIENT INFO TO PREPARE  
LOAN RECOMMENDATION FOR PRESENTATION AT OPIC BOARD'S MAY  
MEETING. HOWEVER, OIL COMPANIES STILL UNCERTAIN ABOUT KEY  
ASPECTS OF PROJECT, E.G., HOW CRUDE WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO  
REFINERY, STATUS OF PLANS TO CONVERT STEE TO FUEL OIL USE,  
DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS OF REFINERY, ETC. ALSO, OPIC LOANS

TIED TO U.S. AND LDC PROCUREMENT. COMPANIES UNABLE TO

BREAK DOWN PROJECT COSTS TO SHOW ESTIMATES FOR U.S. AND  
LDC COMPONENTS.

4. OIL COMPANIES SEEM HAMPERED BY FACT THAT NO ONE HAS  
CLEAR RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP PROJECT.  
EVERY DECISION MUST BE CLEARED BY ALL THREE COMPANIES, A  
CUMBERSOME AND TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS. NEVERTHELESS,  
OPIC CONTINUING TO PUSH THE COMPANIES AND PLANS TO PRESENT  
THE PROJECT FOR APPROVAL AT NEXT BOARD MEETING IN JULY.  
MAIN OPIC CONTACTS ARE ARMEN SAHAKIAN OF CONOCO AND J.C.  
MOUTET OF SHELL, BOTH IN LONDON.

5. AMBASSADOR BRADFORD STOPPED BY ON APRIL 28 AND WAS  
BRIEFED ON THE ABOVE. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JDBANKS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN OPIC  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 301989  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2638877  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINI-REFINERY PROJECT  
**TAGS:** EFIN, CD, OPIC, SHELL, CHEVRON, CONOCO  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009